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7 May 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SUBJECT: Importance to the National Intelligence Authority Program of the 1947 State Department Budget for Intelligence Activities.

It is understood that the 1947 State Department budget for intelligence activities is now under consideration by the Congress. I would like, therefore, to emphasize the vital importance of these activities to the coordinated national intelligence program initiated by the National Intelligence Authority pursuant to the President's directive of January 22, 1946.

The national intelligence mission can be effectively accomplished only if each of the executive departments performs the intelligence functions required to discharge its responsibilities for insuring the national security. In other words, no department is self-sufficient in the field of intelligence; each must depend on the others for a substantial part of its requirements. Therefore, the failure of any one department to carry its share of the load will not only affect adversely its own operations, but will have an extremely detrimental effect upon many other departments and upon the national security.

The role of the State Department in the conduct of the national intelligence program is second to none in importance and magnitude. Its responsibilities and capabilities in the extremely broad fields of foreign political and economic affairs are unique and can be discharged fully by no other department. In these fields it is essential that the State Department perform its appropriate intelligence functions, including research and analysis, not only to serve its own needs, but also those of the President, the Central Intelligence Group, the War and Navy Departments, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other Federal departments and agencies.

Therefore, unless the Department of State receives adequate support for its intelligence organization from the Congress, of the approximate amount requested in the 1947 budget, the successful accomplishment of an effective and economical national intelligence program will be seriously jeopardized if not entirely frustrated.

It is respectfully requested that you consider and, if desirable incorporate the above statements in the presentation of your 1947 budget to the Congress.

"SIGNED"

SIDNEY W. SOUERS
Director